specific projects in order to promote national aeronautics related efforts in an organized manner; and

(b) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF CIVIL AVIATION (SHRI PRAFUL PATEL): (a) No, Sir.

(b) Does not arise.

NCAER report on Air Tariff

2897. SHRI SK. KHABIR UDDIN AHMED: Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION be pleased to refer to answer to Unstarred Question 2165 given in the Rajya Sabha on the 23rd December, 2003 and state:

(a) whether Government have received the report of NCAER; and

(b) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF CIVIL AVIATION (SHRI PRAFUL PATEL): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) The report *inter alia* has recommended autonomy for national carriers, creation of independent Civil Aviation Authority, increased usage of bilaterals with private sector participation, reduction in ATF prices and airport charges, optimal use of airport infrastructure, subsidising uneconomic routes, encouraging use of small aircraft on uneconomic routes, removal of route dispersal guidelines, creation of a hub in North East to develop operational and maintenance activities, Government's support for adequate insurance coverage, autonomy in airport management, expansion of low cost airlines etc. Many of the recommendations have already been implemented or form part of the draft civil aviation policy.

Making AI offices passenger friendly

2898. SHRI VARINDER SINGH BAJWA: Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government have taken any steps recently to streamline the working of Air India Offices abroad to make them more passenger friendly; and

(b) if so, the details thereof?